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STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX PLLC  
1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 600  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3934

EXAMINER

LONSBERRY, HUNTER B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2611

DATE MAILED: 08/28/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**'Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/400,447

Applicant(s)

BASTIEN ET AL.

Examiner

Hunter B. Lonsberry

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 29,31 and 32 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 September 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                      4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). 8.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                      5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Priority***

This application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b) lacks the necessary reference to the prior application. A statement reading "This is a continuation of Application No. PCT/EP97/02117, filed 4/25/1997." should be entered following the title of the invention or as the first sentence of the specification. Also, the current status of all non-provisional parent applications referenced should be included.

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Europe on 3/21/1997. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the EPO application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

### ***Specification***

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is not double-spaced. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The specification lacks the appropriate headings.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 29 recite the limitation "random number" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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Claim 31 recites the limitation "random number" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 32 recites the limitation "random number" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1, 4, 5, 10-12, 17, 19-24, 33, 36 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,870,155 to Erlin.

Regarding claim 1, Erlin discloses in figure 4, a receiver/decoder 40 attached to a TV 42, a remote control 10 with a built in card reader (column 2, lines 38-61) for reading banking/credit information when the card is swiped through the card reader (column 1, lines 43-53, column 2, lines 38-61).

Regarding claim 4, Erlin discloses that the credit card information is read along with an amount to debit the credit account (column 5, lines 1-53).

Regarding claim 5, Erlin discloses that the receiver/decoder 40 may be used in conjunction with an ATM card to pay for goods or services. The system

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Erlin inherently receives authorization information from a remote center as the user's bank or other financial institution must be contacted prior to funds being released to pay/credit for services/goods to be rendered, otherwise the service provider would not be paid.

Regarding claim 10, Erlin discloses that a user may enter their banking information in order to order casino cash, which may be picked up at the casino cashier (column 4, line 64-column 6, line 2).

Regarding claim 11, Erlin discloses that a user may purchase products from a home shopping network, interactive games or movies. Erlin inherently allows a user to input a request to purchase an item otherwise a user would not know how much money to debit their credit account.

Regarding claim 12, Erlin discloses in Figures 6D and E that a user may enter and confirm a PIN number (column 5, lines 18-27).

Regarding claim 17, Erlin discloses in Figures 6A-H a method of ordering items and services in which a receiver/decoder 40 at a user site is used to select an item/service for purchase, sends bank/credit card information to a remote site for verification and transmitting the order for services/products such as a request for casino cash (column 4, line 64-column 6, line 2).

Regarding claim 19, Erlin discloses in Figures 6A-H, a method of ordering items and services via a users ATM/credit card and checks if the credit card is valid (column 6, line 1-2).

Regarding claim 20, Erlin discloses using a PIN number in Figures 6D and E.

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Regarding claim 21, Erlin discloses that the remote control utilizes a DES encryption chip 65 (Figure 3, column 4, lines 18-20).

Regarding claim 22, Erlin discloses that a user uses a remote control to enter financial information for receipt by the receiver/decoder (Figures 6a-h, column 4, line 64-column 5, line 43).

Regarding claim 23, Erlin discloses a combined remote control/card reader in Figure 1 with a casing, which is used to transmit financial information and enter a PIN number, and utilizes a DES chip 65 for encrypting the data (Figures 6a-h, column 4, line 64-column 5, line 43, column 4, lines 18-20).

Regarding claim 24, the remote control utilizes an IR beam for transmitting data (column 2, lines 62-64).

Regarding claims 33 and 37, Erlin discloses that a user transmits a PIN number, which is input via a remote control to a set top box (column 5, lines 18-59).

Regarding claim 36, Erlin discloses in figure 4, a cable set top box 40 attached to a TV 42, a remote control 10 with a built in card reader (column 2, lines 38-61) for reading banking/credit information when the card is swiped through the card reader (column 1, lines 43-53, column 2, lines 38-61).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to

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be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 13, 14, 25, 28 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,870,155 to Erlin.

Regarding claims 13 and 14, Erlin discloses that the apparatus may be a remote control, which communicates with a set-top box (column 5, lines 53-59). Erlin does not disclose a combined set-top box and card reader. The examiner takes official notice that the use of a set-top box with an integrated card reader is well known for use in the digital satellite receiver art in order to provide authorization information to the decoder. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Erlin to include a card reader in a set top box to allow a user to order goods and services even if the remote control has been misplaced or lost.

Regarding claim 25, Erlin discloses that the remote control utilizes a DES encryption chip 65 when transmitting ATM card data (Figure 3, column 4, lines 18-20). Erlin does not disclose if DES encryption is used on the PIN number. The examiner takes official notice that the use of DES encryption for transmitting PIN numbers is known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Erlin to encrypt the PIN number utilizing DES encryption in order to provide another layer of security for financial transactions.

Regarding claim 28, Erlin discloses a combined remote control/card reader in Figure 1 with a casing, which is used to transmit financial information

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and enter a PIN number, and utilizes a DES chip 65 for encrypting the data, the remote control communicates with a cable box 40 (column 2, lines 50-61, Figures 6a-h, column 4, line 64-column 5, line 43, column 4, lines 18-20). Erlin does not disclose if the cable box is part of a digital television system. The examiner takes official notice that the use of a digital cable box to order programming and other services is well known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Erlin to be part of a digital television system in order to make use of the additional bandwidth a digital television system offers in order to provide additional channels and services to a end user.

Regarding claim 39, Erlin discloses that a user transmits a PIN number, which is input via a remote control to a set top box (column 5, lines 18-59). Erlin does not disclose transmitting the PIN number to a television. The examiner takes official notice that remote controls may communicate directly with a television. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Erlin to communicate directly with a television thereby reducing making it easier for a user to connect to a CATV network, as no additional connections to a set top box are required.

Claims 2, 3, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,870,155 to Erlin in view of U.S. Patent 5,491,827 to Holtey.



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Regarding claims 2 and 3, Erlin discloses a remoter control with a card reader, which reads bank/credit cards (column 1, lines 43-53, column 2, lines 38-61). Erlin does not disclose interacting with a card that contains a microprocessor. Holtey discloses in Figure 1, a card 3, with a microprocessor 10 and flash memory 103, which stores identification information such as a pin number (column 5, lines 10-25, column 6, lines 1-19). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify the credit card Erlin to include the microprocessor and memory of Holtey in order to provide an extra security feature to protect the cards owner from having their credit card information stolen, and as a means for storing additional data on the credit card.

Regarding claim 15, Erlin discloses a remoter control with a card reader, which reads bank/credit cards (column 1, lines 43-53, column 2, lines 38-61) and allows a user to order a VOD movie (column 5, lines 48-51) for viewing on a TV 42. Erlin does not disclose interacting with a card that contains a microprocessor or the use of bank/smart cards in a digital satellite receiver. Holtey discloses in Figure 1, a smart card 3, with a microprocessor 10 and flash memory 103 that stores identification information such as a pin number and readable by the microprocessor (column 5, lines 10-25, column 6, lines 1-19). The examiner takes official notice that the use of smart cards as storage/authorization devices in digital satellite systems is well known. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify the credit card Erlin to include the microprocessor and memory of Holtey in a digital satellite system in order to provide an extra security feature to protect the cards owner from having

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their credit card information stolen, and as a means for storing additional data on the credit card as well as to prohibit unauthorized users from receiving programming they did not pay for.

Regarding claim 16, Erlin discloses that the receiver/decoder make be used at a hotel casino (column 1, lines 43-53). The examiner takes official notice that digital satellite systems are known to have a wide subscriber base with each subscriber utilizing a receiver/decoder to access programming and shopping services. Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the combined system of Erlin and Holtey in order to allow a plurality of end users to order programs and services.

Claims 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,870,155 to Erlin in view of U.S. Patent 5,603,078 to Henderson.

Regarding claim 6, Erlin discloses a combination credit card/remote control that is used to order good services or TV programming (column 5, lines 39-52). Erlin does not disclose decoding or descrambling a video program in response to receiving authorization information. Henderson discloses a combination remote/card reader 100 that reads a magnetic card and allows for video services to be purchased and displayed upon authorization from a control/billing computer (column 4, line 43-column 5, line 20). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Erlin to include the billing/control computer of Henderson in order to automate

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customer billing and provide a billing statement to a customer upon checking out of a hotel.

Regarding claim 7, Erlin discloses a combination credit card/remote control that is used to order good services or TV programming (column 5, lines 39-52). Erlin does not disclose storing credit information for purchasing products on the users magnetic card. Henderson discloses that the magnetic card may be used to store user/communication settings (column 9, lines 5-35). The examiner takes official notice that the use of a magnetic card to hold credit information representing remaining credits is well known in the art, for example a transportation debit card, or an arcade debit card. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Erlin to store additional data as taught by Henderson including the number of remaining credits thereby enabling a user to order VOD programming or other services at any location.

Regarding claim 8, Erlin discloses a combination credit card/remote control which is used to order good services or TV programming (column 5, lines 39-52). Erlin does not disclose storing credit information for purchasing products on the users magnetic card. Henderson discloses that the magnetic card may be used to store user/communication settings (column 9, lines 5-35). The examiner takes official notice that the use of a magnetic card to hold credit information representing remaining credits and the ability to recharge or add credits is well known in the art, for example a transportation debit card, or an arcade debit card. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of

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invention to modify Erlin to store additional data as taught by Henderson including the number of remaining credits thereby enabling a user to order VOD programming or other services at any location.

Regarding claim 9, Erlin discloses a combination credit card/remote control which is used to order good services or TV programming (column 5, lines 39-52). Erlin does not disclose storing credit information for purchasing products on the users magnetic card. Henderson discloses that the magnetic card may be used to store user/communication settings (column 9, lines 5-35). The examiner takes official notice that the use of an ATM card to buy multiple products at the same time is well known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, at the time of invention to modify the combined system of Erlin and Henderson to enable a user to purchase a plurality of products at the same time thereby allowing a customer to make better use of their time.

Claims 18, 26, 27, 29, 32, 24 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,870,155 to Erlin in view of U.S. Patent 5,475,756 to Merritt.

Regarding claims 18, 26- 32 Erlin discloses a combination credit card/remote control which is used to order good services or TV programming via an ATM card (column 5, lines 39-52). Erlin does not disclose utilizing a random number which is passed between the user and the remote center, allowing a user customizable number, and storing the number locally to the controller. Merritt discloses an ATM system which utilizes a random number generator to encrypt

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random numbers which are passed back and forth between an ATM machine and a central bank, the number is stored locally so that the encrypted values may be compared (column 5, lines 18-column 6 line 20). The examiner takes official notice that the use of user-generated passwords which are used for authentication and may be cached locally are known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Erlin, to include a random number which is sent along with the PIN number a further authenticator as taught by Merritt and allowing the user to choose a random number and cache the number locally thereby adding another layer of security to the transactions.

Regarding claim 28, Erlin discloses that a user uses keys 14 to input a PIN number and presses the enter button to send the information (column 5, lines 17-22).

Regarding claims 30 and 31, Erlin discloses a combination credit card/remote control which is used to order good services or TV programming via an ATM card (column 5, lines 39-52). Erlin does not disclose if the remote control is addressable or not or if this address is sent along with the random number and pin number. The examiner takes official notice that the use of addresses in wireless devices is well known in order to designate information which is to be sent to a specific device is well known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Erlin to utilize an addressable remote control which sends the pin number, random number and

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address number in its communications in order to add an extra layer of security to financial transactions and guarantee that information is received at the proper devices.

Regarding claim 34, Erlin discloses that a user transmits a PIN number which is input via a remote control to a set top box (column 5, lines 18-59), the pin number is displayed on the user's television (Figure 6E). Merritt discloses an ATM system which utilizes a random number generator to encrypt random numbers which are passed back and forth between an ATM machine and a central bank. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Erlin to display the user's PIN number in addition to a random number to allow for troubleshooting the exchange of financial information.

Regarding claim 35, Erlin discloses that a user transmits a PIN number which is input via a remote control to a set top box (column 5, lines 18-59), the pin number is displayed on the user's television (Figure 6E). Merritt discloses an ATM system which utilizes a random number generator to encrypt random numbers which are passed back and forth between an ATM machine and a central bank. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Erlin to transmit a random number back to a remote device as taught by Merritt in order to provide an additional an extra layer of security to financial transactions.

### ***Conclusion***


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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hunter B. Lonsberry whose telephone number is 703-305-3234. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday during normal business hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile can be reached on 703-305-4380. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-5359 for regular communications and 703-372-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

HBL  
August 26, 2002

  
**ANDREW FAILE**  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600